

BOOK REVIEW

ANGELA LEIVA, photographs by GONZALO CANETTI. 2007. **Trees of Cuba**. (ISBN-10: 1405029056, ISBN-13: 978-1405029056, pbk.). MacMillan Caribbean Publishers, Between Towns Road, Oxford, OX4 3PP, United Kingdom. (**Orders:** www.macmillan-caribbean.com, caribben@macmillan.com, +44 (0)1865-405843 fax). \$10.70, 112 pp., color photographs, 8 1/2" × 5 1/4".

This book has been produced not for academics but for anyone wishing to identify the most commonly seen trees in Cuba, whether in the city, beside the road, on the beach or in other parts of the island. There are well over 800 species of trees growing on the island, thus this volume presents only a sample of the enormous arboreal variety to be found in Cuba.

Covering all of the most common species and some of the lesser-known varieties, nearly one hundred species are covered in this guide. Each species has a full page devoted to it with at least one full color photograph. Details included are flowers, seeds, and bark. Also included is information on medicinal and culinary uses and warnings about poisonous species.

This guide will be especially useful to the general reader. A balanced coverage of both native and cultivated species enhances its usefulness as a pocket reference. It includes a bibliography and indexes of both common and scientific names and is recommended for anyone with an interest in the flora of Cuba and the Caribbean region.

Angela Leiva is a Professor of the University of Havana and is the Director of the National Botanical Garden. She is currently working on the conservation of threatened Cuban plants. Gonzalo Canetti is known nationally and internationally for his scientific and publicity photography. He is a photo-reporter for the Cuban Ministry of Science, Technology and the Environment.—Gary L. Jennings, Botanical Research Institute of Texas, 500 East 4th Street, Fort Worth, Texas 76102-4025, U.S.A.